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P21633.A06

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Dr. Joachim GRABSCHEID et al.

Serial No : 10/032,011

Art Unit: 1731

Filed : December 31, 2001

Examiner: M. Halpern

For : APPLICATION DEVICE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450,
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

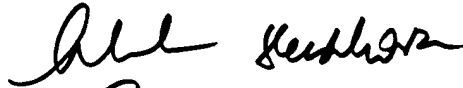
In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on June 3, 2003, and to the Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application.

In this regard, Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references of record. However, Applicant further wishes to clarify that the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and the basis for patentability of these claims is based upon the totality of the features recited therein.

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Should the Examiner have any questions or comments about the above, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Joachim GRABSCHEID et al.


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July 30, 2003
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